From: Simmons, Denise
To: Philip McArthur
Subject: Re: Proposed boycott of Hewlett Packard
Date: Monday, April 23, 2018 8:11:47 PM

Dear Mr. McArthur,

Thank you for your thoughtful email. I must confess that this particular issue is not my area of expertise - I would not presume to know all the intricacies of Israeli politics and the daily goings-on there, nor am I sufficiently well-versed on the BDS movement. I am currently in the process of reading up on this from a variety of different sources, and this process will continue up until such time as this comes before the City Council.

I must also confess that I have yet to see a draft of the proposed resolution, if such a draft exists. I have met with people who have advocated for the HP boycott, I have met with those who are opposed to it, and I am in the process of reaching out to our congressional representatives to seek their opinions on this matter. As with any business before the Council, I am committed to keeping an open mind and learning as much as I can before I determine how I will vote. If this does ultimately come before the City Council, I will look forward to a robust discussion amongst my colleagues and I will do all that I can to ensure that people from all sides of this issue feel they have been given an opportunity to weigh in and be heard. Again, thank you for reaching out and sharing your thoughts on this important matter.

E. Denise Simmons

From: Philip McArthur <philmcarthur@me.com>
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 2:07 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Proposed boycott of Hewlett Packard

Dear City Councilors, Mayor and Vice Mayor,

I am a 40+ year resident of Cambridge, and I am writing to ask that you please vote for the resolution to boycott Hewlett Packard. I strongly disagree with the Israeli-American Coalition for Action. I do not see this resolution as anti-semitic, any more than I saw the boycott of South Africa during apartheid as anti-white. The purpose of the boycott is to pressure Israel to restore the rights of the Palestinian people. Please support the resolution and do not give in to the distorted rhetoric of the I-ACA.

Sincerely,

Philip McArthur